



Golden
Empire
Amateur
Radio
Society, Inc.

<http://www.gearsw6rhc.org>

"Dedicated to Public Service"

THE RADIATOR



W6RHC
IRLP #8170
Echolink #322788



P.O.Box 508 Chico, CA 95927-0508

Founded: August 13 1939

June, 2010

Coming Events

O.A.R.S. GENERAL MEETING

Friday, June 11, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., at St. Paul's Church Parrish Hall, 1430 Pine St., Oroville

G.A.R.S. GENERAL MEETING; 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday June 9, at the Lutheran Church Hall, Artois

G.E.A.R.S GENERAL MEETING

Friday, June 18, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at Butte County Search & Rescue Building-2591 Morrow Lane, Chico

A.R.E.S. MEET: No meeting in June due to Field Day 25, 26, 27,

FCC EXAMS - GEARS VEC

Sunday August 1, 2010

At the Butte County Search and Rescue Building. Written test at 2:00 p.m. For information or pre-registration call Gene WA6ZRT, (530) 345-3515.

Club Events:

News and items of interest
GEARS Calendar...all inside.

Remember to check out our
excellent Website: www.gearsw6rhc.org



Picture courtesy EVARC

Field day this month!!! 25th, 26th, 27th

Gear up for ARRL Field Day, **June 26-27, 2010!**
ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the last full weekend in June, brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun.

GEARS field day is held at Platte Mt., above Forest Ranch. A great location to have a great time.

The gates open in the afternoon on Friday 25th, for those who desire to set up camp earlier on Friday .

This year GARS members will join with GEARS members at Field Day. Welcome everyone!

Notice : There will be no GEARS Newsletter published during July and August.

Happy Summer Everyone!
Dorothy Post

The GEARS Auction, Raffle and the Little Black Battery

The May meeting of GEARS was one of the most interesting meetings we have put on in a long time and the amount of pieces to be raffled to be auction ranged from very old to the very new. I was great to see some faces and calls I had not seen for a while.

Gene, WA6ZRT was a great master of ceremonies and master auctioneer describing each item to be auction, telling the assembled often “this is a great deal and you really need this”; a true word smith with a rapport with his audience.

All items received a good evaluation, however some were returned to the table without an inkling of interest, a pass for cause. The lucky ones to receive raised hand with a bid went quickly some had multiple bids with three or four bidding on the prized item. As the evening went on more of the sought after items were bid with a furious banter. The bidders barking their one up-man ship with a quick retorts, the dollar temperatures rose at a feverish pitch, at the end the final bidder got his sought after item.

The final items were some 12DCV batteries that were new and were going to be used in an X-Ray machine, Danny Newman, K6MLA, donated to be raffled off. Danny works for General Electric and is also a Lieutenant with the Butte County Search and Rescue.

The bids for these little gems when up very quickly and settled at \$15.00 per battery, a real bargain for a battery that costs well over \$100.00 on the battery market.

I checked the voltage on mine and it was reading 12.87 V DC on my VOM digital meter out of the box. I placed a battery tender that has a 1.25A and it charged it up to 14.57 V and the charger automatically switched to a “maintaining current” with the voltage settling at 13.2 V. Even with the tender off and rig off, it kept a voltage of 12.65 V. For two evenings of scanning on my IC-V8000 it was at 12.50V. Even with some transmitting it was at 12.32 and then responded well and recovered back to around 12.55.

Having not seen this type of battery before, so I looked up the model number and this homepage came up with this data information:

http://www.panasonic.com/industrial/includes/pdf/Panasonic_VRLA_LC-X1228P_LC-X1228AP.pdf

If you have one these and plan to connect to your VHF, UHF rigs make sure you check your rigs manual for the Power Supply Requirements. It should say: 13.8 VDC + -15% or 10% (or another number in percent). Crunch the numbers before you connect it up and turn on the battery tender.

Stephen
W6AKF

GEARS Radiator



**DOUBLE GOOD FORTUNE for OARS MEMBER,
BOB ODEN Winner of the Yaesu FT-2900-R/E and
The Magmount**



James Hilton, winner of third prize, 50 ft RGU8 cable.

June, 2010



Master auctioneer Gene Wright



VEC TESTING

August 1, 2010

**AT BUTTE COUNTY
SEARCH & RESCUE
BUILDING**

**All Classes
Technician, General and
Extra.**



**Caps embroi-
dered with your
name and your
call sign may be
ordered by con-
tacting WA6ZRT
-Gene Telephone
#530 -345-3515**

**Contact: WA6ZRT-
Gene Wright
530-345-3515**

Tech Test Gets a Little More Technical

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Ever since the FCC dropped the code requirement and the Novice license exam, the Technician Class license has really been misnamed. Being the first license that most hams obtain, it really should have been called the Novice license. The question pool was arguably at the appropriate level for newcomers to amateur radio, being heavy on rules and operating practices, and perhaps a little light on technical topics.

That's about to change. On July 1, 2010, the question pool for the Tech test changes, and this version has noticeably more technical questions than the previous test. You could say that the Tech test is getting, errrr, a little more technical.

For example, the new question pool contains more questions about electronics components and their functions. In addition to that, examinees must also be able to identify the symbols for these components on a schematic diagram. This is a big change from the previous test, which had no diagrams at all. There are also more detailed questions about transistors and how they work.

There are also questions on how to make basic measurements with a multimeter how to troubleshoot basic problems that Technicians are likely to encounter. One question asks, "What two measurements are commonly made using a multimeter"? Answer: voltage and resistance. A follow up question asks,

"What is the correct way to connect a voltmeter to a circuit"? Answer: in parallel with the circuit.

To make room for these questions, the committee dropped questions on operating practices and rules and regulations. In general, these are not big losses, but two questions that I was sorry to see go are the questions on the "basis and purpose" of amateur radio. I think these are very important for new amateurs to learn and keep in mind. (If you don't recall them, go to <http://www.arrl.org/part-97-amateur-radio> and review them.)

By the time you read this--or shortly thereafter--the new version of my No-Nonsense, Technician Class License Study Guide should be available. You can download it free of charge from my website, www.kb6nu.com. Look for the link in the right-hand column. It's currently in the hands of more than two dozen reviewers, who are proofreading it right now.

While it may not be in the initial release, I plan to include a section that contains links to websites that cover topics included in the study guide. That way, students can find more information on a topic, if they choose to do so. If you have any favorite websites that discuss making measurements with voltmeters or how to read schematic diagrams, I'd love to hear from you.

Sending and Relaying Messages...The Basics

Part Two - Procedural Words:

Sending technique involves the use of certain procedural words and phrases which help the receiving station anticipate what is coming...phrases such as “figures” or “I spell” etc. When first encountered, these procedures sometimes seem a bit artificial and unnecessary. However, these have proven over a long period of time to be useful. When you make their use a habit in your message sending, they fall in automatically and become natural. The primary function of these words and phrases is to define the parts of the message, and to alert the receiving station about what is to follow.

The phrase “MESSAGE FOLLOWS” is used to alert the receiving operator that the message is about to start. The next thing the receiving operator hears must be written down.

The word “BREAK” is used at the end of the address and again at the end of the text, along with releasing the microphone. This procedure separates the parts of the message as well as giving the receiving operator an opportunity to ask for a fill or other clarification. If the receiving station requires a fill, he or she should say “BREAK” in return and wait for an acknowledgement from the sending station before asking for a fill.

The word “END” indicates the end of the message, and is usually accompanied by an indication of whether there are more messages to follow: “END ONE MORE, OVER” indicates end of message and one more to follow. “END...MORE, OVER” indicates end of message and two or more to follow. Saying “OVER” after the “END: phrase asks the receiving station to acknowledge your message. Make sure you get a clear acknowledgement before you leave the frequency or proceed with other business. When receiving traffic, make sure you have it right before you acknowledge the message. Train yourself to always use “OVER” when you finish a transmission and want another station to reply. In the process of sending the message, there are various introductory words and phrases that alert the receiving station about what is to follow.

“FIGURE’ OR FIGURES’ introduces a number or groups of numbers. For example, if the number 528 appears in the message, the sending operator would say: “FIGURES FIVE TWO EIGHT”

Note that the individual digits are always given...”FIVE TWO EIGHT”, not ‘FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT”.

“INITIAL” introduces a single letter. It is often an initial in a person's name, but not always. INITIAL is used any time there is a single letter. Always use phonetics when saying the letter. So if a person's middle initial is “I”, it is sent as ‘INITIAL INDIA’.

‘I SPELL’ is used to alert the receiving operator that the next thing that will be sent will be a series of letters. If the word or group to be spelled is a pronounceable word, say the word followed by “ I SPELL’ followed by the spelling. So if the city name Bethesda appears in a message, it would be sent, ‘BETHESDA...I SPELL...BRAVO ECHO TANGO HOTEL ECHO SIERRA DELTA ALFA”.

Phonetics may or may not be used. Whether or not to use phonetics becomes a judgment call on the part of the sending operator, and depends on the quality of communications. If the radio conditions are poor, phonetics generally work better. If we're working on 2-meter FM and both stations are full quieting to each , phonetics often are not necessary and can actually slow the process down. If spelling without phonetics, deliver the letters slowly and distinctly. If you do use phonetics, learn and use only the standard ICAO phonetic alphabet:

ALFA	HOTEL	OSCAR	VICTOR
BRAVO	INDIA	PAPA	WHISKEY
CHARLIE	JULIET	QUEBEC	XRAY
DELTA	KILO	ROMEO	YANKEE
ECHO	LIMA	SIERRA	ZULU
FOXTROT	MIKE	TANGO	
GOLF	NOVEMBER	UNIFORM	

The phrase “I SAY AGAIN’ indicates that you are going to repeat the previous word, group or phrase. It is important that the receiving operator knows that what is coming is a repeat, to avoid incorporating duplicate wording or information into the message. There is often no punctuation in messages. The letter ‘X’ or ‘XRAY” is used in place of a period. Questions are indicated with the word ‘QUERY’. If the meaning of the message is dependent on a comma or other punctuation, spell the name of the punctuation out as a word, such as COMMA or PERIOD.

Decimal points in numbers are indicated by the word DECIMAL.

KO6TW....RAY (November 2003)

**Glenn Amateur Radio Society
G.A.R.S.**

New Club Call Sign: KJ6HCG

**Registered domain name:
garshamradio2010.org**

E-mail address: hamradio2010@usa.com.

Mailing address is:

**Glenn Amateur Radio Society
(G.A.R.S.)
PO Box 212
Willows, Ca 95988**

**The GARS Club meets every second
Wednesday at 7:p.m, with the Board meet-
ing at 6:15 p.m. The meetings are held at
545 Main Street (Lutheran Church Hall)
in Artois.**

**ARES SCHEDULED
TRAINING PROGRAMS
Amateur Radio Emergency Services**

**ARES meetings are the fourth Friday of
each month. . Programs planned at pre-
sent are:**

**No June meeting due to Field Day sched-
ule.**

**July 23: Crossband repeating/portable
repeaters**

**Please offer suggestions for future study
programs during the Monday night net.**

**You do not have to be a member of
GEARS to participate in ARES. All inter-
ested parties are encouraged to attend
ARES meetings. *****

**TECH CLASSES COMMENCED MAY 6, AT
VETERANS HALL BUILDING, WILLOWS.**

**The classes are held each Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
The current class session has seven (7) aspir-
ing ham radio operators.**

**The ARRL test will be given at the final meeting
on July 8.**

Contact John Hursey-n8gnv@sbcglobal.net.

Friday June 11	7:00 p.m.	Oroville Amateur Radio Society OARS General Meeting	St Paul's Church Parrish Hall 1430 Pine St., Oro- ville, CA	John Hunt K7XE@arrl.net 530- 589-4734
Wednesday June 9	7:00 p.m.	Glenn Amateur Radio Society (GARS) General Meeting	Lutheran Church Hall 565 Main St., Artois, CA	John Hursey N8GNV 530-329-6713 n8gnv@sbcglobal.net
Friday June 18	6:30 PM.	GEARS General Meeting	Butte Co. Search and Res- cue Bldg 2591 Morrow Lane, Chico	Randall Stone K6RCS 530-521-1318
Friday June 25, Satur- day June 26, Sunday June 27	Set Up on Fri- day p.m.	ARRL Field Day	Platte Mt. above Forest Ranch	Randall Stone K6RCS 530 521 1318
No ARES MEET IN JUNE	7:00 p.m	ARES	Butte Co. Search and Res- cue Bldg 2591 Morrow Lane, Chico	Steve Kaps N6NPN (530) 591-0450
August 1st Sunday	2:00 p.m.	VEC Test	Butte County Search and Rescue Building, 2591 Morrow Lane, Chico	Gene Wright WA6ZRT 530 345-3515

The GEARS Newsletter Staff:

Editor and Publisher.....Dorothy Post
Printing & DistributionSuzanne Jessen KG6IZM
Website.....Stephen McDermott W6AKF

The Radiator is a monthly publication of the Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society (GEARS). It is the policy of the Editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio, of interest to GEARS members, and space is available. Please send all submissions to the Editor – Dorothy Post by the last day of the month through the following medium: E-mail: dj@posthouse.us

Club Officers: (Board of Directors)

PresidentRandall Stone K6RCS
Vice President.....James Hilton KI6NKZ
SecretaryKrista Gallwitz K6KEG
Treasurer.....Lester Mikeworth KG6KUO
Past PresidentRay Watkins KO6TW
Director.....Gene Wright WA6ZRT
Director.....Stephen McDermott W6AKF
Director.....Evelyn Weir K6QXC

Club Meetings

General Meeting Third Friday 6:30 PM
 Board Meeting Third Friday 9:00 PM

Club Net

Tuesdays 8:00 PM 146.850 MHz

Sacramento Valley Traffic Net

Nightly 9:00 PM 146.850 MHz

ARES Net

Butte Glenn Mondays 8:00 PM 146.850 MHz
 Yuba Sutter Thursdays 7:00 PM 146.085 MHz
 Meetings Fourth Friday 7:00 PM

Other Nets

Sac Valley
 Section Net
 7:00 PM 2nd Wed of
 the month
 146.085 MHz
 440 Wed. Night 8:00 PM Wednesday 440.650 MHz
 520 *Simplex* 8:00 PM Thursdays 146.520 MHz
 Golden Bear 7:00 PM Daily 3975 kHz
 Willie Net 8:00 PM Mondays 1930 kHz
Western Public Service System (WPSS)
 Winter
 Summer
 5:00 – 7:30 PM
 6:00 – 8:30 PM
 3952 kHz
 3952 kHz

ARISS (International Space Station)

Uplink 144.490 MHz Downlink 145.800 MHz
 Hope-1 satellite: all uplinks are in 145Mhz band:
 All downlinks are in 435Mhz band

FUTURE EVENTS**2010 ARRL FIELD DAY**

Gear up for ARRL Field Day, **June 26-27, 2010! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the last full weekend in June, brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. GEARS field day is at Platte Mt., above Forest Ranch. A great location.**

*

September: GEARS Annual steak bake .



Gone crazy. Back soon.